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Crown's Newest Art Installation Joins City's Arts in Public Places Program

Visitors find inspiration and contemplation at Olmstead Park

Gaithersburg, MD (July 12, 2019) – Crown's newest public art providing inspiration and contemplation in the heart of the popular retail and residential community will be formally added to the City of Gaithersburg's Art in Public Places program during a dedication ceremony on July 17.

Gaithersburg Mayor Jud Ashman will lead the dedication effort, which is scheduled for 10 a.m. on July 17 at Olmstead Park, between Paladar Latin Kitchen & Rum Bar restaurant and the townhomes along Crown Park Avenue. A kid-friendly art activity will follow the dedication.

Artist and innovator Steven Weitzman created the interactive, meditative public art installation at Crown, playing off of the spirit of the innovators whose names are memorialized in street names throughout the Crown community. The art at Olmstead Park, a pocket park in the Downtown Crown neighborhood, offers visitors the opportunity to enjoy quotes attributed to those innovators, artists, musicians and authors etched in pavers on the site. The installation provides a tranquil environment using seating areas and foliage to enjoy a quiet moment away from the bustle of the Downtown activity.

Weitzman, a Maryland resident, is most recently noted for his recent success sculpting an eight-foot bronze statue of former Washington mayor Marion Barry Jr., "Mayor for Life," that stands in front of the District's city hall.

"This public art piece is intended to be a contemplative, one-on-one conversation between the viewer and these innovators," Weitzman said. "Each quote can be read individually, or if they are viewed collectively, viewers will see that the quotes are a letter to them, one of hope and perseverance, the hallmarks of innovation."

The city's Art in Public Places program dates to 1997 and there are 27 other public art installations so far in the program.

“The City of Gaithersburg prides itself on supporting artists and their messages of self-expression. Public art transforms our city streets, our neighborhoods and public parks into places of meaning and community engagement. This park in Crown gives visitors a chance to discover their favorite quote or stumble upon a new one to enjoy,” Ashman said.

About Crown

Crown is a master-planned community located on 182-acres in the heart of Montgomery County, just off Interstate 270 at Sam Eig Highway and the Intercounty Connector. The community broke ground on phase one in 2012 and today the community is thriving with 410 townhomes, 44 single-family homes, 538 apartments, 128 condominiums and 260,000 square feet of retail in the first two neighborhoods, Downtown Crown and Crown West. The second phase, Crown East, will break ground summer 2018. When complete, Crown will include up to 2,250 residential units and 320,000 square feet of retail and commercial space. To learn more, visit www.SmartUrbanLiving.com.

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